Amendments to the Specification

Page 1, between lines 4 and 5, please rewrite the sentence as follows:

This application is a Divisional application of Serial No. 09/142,623, filed September 10, 1998, now ~~allowed~~ issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,337,201, which is a 371 of PCT/JP97/00757, filed March 11, 1997~~, which is pending~~.

Page 7, lines 7 and 8, please rewrite as follows:

~~Figure 4 shows~~ Figures 4A and 4B show the construction of plasmid pAN203.

~~Figure 5 shows~~ Figures 5A and 5B show the construction of plasmid pAN572.

Page 36, line 19 to page 37, line 10, please rewrite as follows:

Aspergillus niger NIA5292 was cultivated in a liquid medium (2% soluble starch, 1% polypepton, 0.2% yeast extract, 0.5% sodium dihydrogenphosphate and 0.05% magnesium sulfate) at 28°C for 24 hours with shaking. The cell bodies were collected with a glass filter, suspended in an enzyme solution (1 mg/ml β-glucuronidase (Sigma Chemical Co.), 5 mg/ml Novozym 234 (Novo Nordisk), 10 mM sodium phosphate (pH 5.8) and 0.8M potassium chloride), and maintained at 30°C for 1.5 hours. After the cell debris was removed by a glass filter, and the resultant protoplasts were collected by centrifigation. The protoplasts were washed twice in STC buffer (10 mM Tris (pH7.5), 10 mM calcium chloride and 1.2 M sorbitol), and suspended in STC buffer. Next, the protoplasts were mixed with plasmid pAN203 which had been digested with HindIII, and maintained still on ice for 20 minutes. After PEG solution (10 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 10 mM calcium chloride and 60% polyethylene glycol 6000) was added, the sample was maintained still on ice for another 20 minutes. The protoplasts were washed a few times in STC buffer, and suspended in Czapek's medium (0.2% sodium nitrate, 0.1% dipotassium hydrogenphosphate, 0.05% magnesium sulfate, 0.05% potassium chloride, 0.001% ferric sulfate and 3% sucrose) containing 1.2 M sorbitol and 0.8% agar. It was then overlaid on Czapek's agar medium containing 1.2 M sorbitol and 1.5% agar, and incubated at 30°C. After incubation for about 5 days, strains which formed colonies (transformants) were selected and cultivated in a

liquid medium. The chromosomal DNAs of the ~~transtormants~~ transformants were extracted and analyzed by the Southern method, in order to select transformant in which only one copy of plasmid pAN203 was inserted by homologous recombination in the upstream region of the host β-fructofuranosidase gene.